PSU		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
HTL	Sales/Turn over	274.58	358.14	449.32
	Profit before Tax	6.77	8.54	21.06
VSNL	Sales/Turn over	6436.13	7175.56	7230.51
	Profit before Tax	1428.41	1965.50	1942.73 (Before ICO write off of Rs.512.76 Crores)
MTNL	Sales/Turn over	4779.32	5259.29	5356.89
	Profit before Tax	1671.97	1889.86	1399.94
TCIL	Sales/Turn over	592.28	647.31	731.53
	Profit before Tax	46.66	56.90	58.73

Opening of Telephone Exchanges and Post Offices in Pondicherry

3131. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of new Telephone Exchanges proposed to be opened in the Union Territory of Pondicherry during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) what are the details of Post Offices proposed to be set up in the State during the next two years; and

(c) the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The details of new Telephone Exchanges opened/proposed to be opened in the Union Territory of Pondichery during Ninth Five Year Plan are given in the Statement (*See* below). Action has already been taken to procure the telephone exchange equipment for the year 2000-2001.

(b) and (c) There is no request pending for opening of new

Post Office in Pondicherry. As of now, there is no proposal to open any new Post Office in the Union Territory of Pondicherry in the next two years.

Statement

New Telephone Exchange opened in the Union Territory of Pondicherry

Year	Location	Capacity
1997-98	Nil	Nil
1998-99	Muthialpet	2500 lines
1999-2000	Natesan Nagar	4500 lines

Exchange proposed to be opened during 2000-2001

1.	Brindawan	6000 Lines
2.	Thavalakuppam	1000 Lines
3.	Ariyankuppam	2000 Lines
4.	Jimper	1000 Lines
5.	Katterikuppam	1000 Lines
6.	Thirubuvanai	1000 Lines
7.	T.R. Pattianam	1500 Lines
8.	Nehru Nagar	1500 Lines

The plan for the year 2001-2002 is yet to be finalised because plans to open new exchanges in the country are drawn on year to year basis based on demand on demand for telephones.

Opening of Post Offices in the Villages of Andhra Pradesh

3132. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of CUMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post Offices to be opened in the villages of Andhra Pradesh during the current financial year;

(b) the number of villages which are still to be provided